

Why sub was not used

ANDY Williams this week defended his decision not to bring Mark Judd on to the field during Saturday's match at Dulwich.

"I don't think he would have done any better than the players we had on the field," commented Mr Williams. "I was going to use him for the last 15 minutes, but then Dulwich scored to make it 3-1 and our chance had gone."

Mr Williams confirmed that Judd was still having trials with Walsall and would only be called upon when Blues were desperate. He had to be substituted this time as apart from goalkeeper Chris Way, he was the only member of the squad available.

There's better news about Stewart Atkins, a recent 'flu victim. He expects to be fit for the home match against Leytonstone on Saturday. Blues have no midweek game either this week or next week.

Busy Easter

But they make up for that shortage of matches with three games in four days at Easter. On Good Friday they are at home to Tilbury and the following day they travel to Leatherhead. Both of these matches are in the Berge Isthmian League.

On Easter Monday Blues meet Hungerford in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup final at Marlow, when they start as favourites to regain their title.

But that is the only honour they are likely to win this season, after the defeat by Dulwich. The Isthmian championship now looks like a two-horse race between Barkings and Enfield, although Dagenham, Slough and Dulwich could still figure in the outcome.

The situation at the bottom of the Premier Division is more clear cut. Following their dropped points on Saturday Kingstonian and Leytonstone are all set for the drop as time is running out fast.

BERGE ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barking	32	19	8	5	67	45	65
Slough	34	18	8	8	49	34	62
Enfield	29	18	5	6	55	28	59
Dulwich	33	18	11	4	67	31	59
Dagenham	32	16	5	9	62	49	58
Wycombe	33	16	7	10	49	34	55
Croydon	30	15	7	8	45	29	52
Hampton	36	13	11	11	42	40	50
Leatherhead	32	14	7	11	47	32	49
Woking	32	13	10	9	62	48	49
Surton	33	13	8	12	52	37	47
Tooting	34	12	11	11	44	42	47
Hitchin	36	12	10	14	55	60	46
Boreham Wld	36	12	9	15	46	69	45
Oxford	36	12	7	17	44	65	43
Walthamstow	33	12	5	16	49	59	41
Tilbury	35	10	10	15	50	68	40
Hayes	33	7	13	13	34	46	34
Canthampton	32	7	11	14	37	55	32
Staines	33	6	13	14	37	51	31
Kingston	36	3	11	22	28	61	20
Leytonstone	35	4	7	24	29	67	19

Ossie double reopens all the cracks

By MICHAEL KNOX: Dulwich 3, Wycombe 1

various players have filled his position on the right.

Kennedy is a skilful player, but on Saturday, he scarcely emerged from the 'bog' in the centre of the field, to force his character on the game. Beside him Les Reed is a willing worker but has often looked out of his depth and this match was no exception.

Control

Thus, Dulwich's youngsters Chris Lewington and Martin Lewis, in particular, were allowed to take control at a vital stage of the game just after Wycombe had pulled it back to 2-1 in the second half. So Dulwich pulled away again to become only the second side to score three goals against the Blues in a league match.

But it could all have been so different had Wanderers taken their chances in the first 20 minutes. The best fell to Dylan Evans who headed against a post from close

range after an excellent run and cross by Mick Hollifield. A goal then, and the young Dulwich side could have lost their composure.

However on the half hour it was the home team who took the lead after Bayram had been fouled on half-way. George Borg, a classy looking left back pumped it forward into the penalty area, Kimm Connett touched it to Bayram, whose shot on the turn sent the ball trickling over the line near the right hand post.

It was a typical piece of opportunism by the flamboyant Bayram, who was to increase the lead three minutes before half-time.

Struggling

John Maskell, returning in goal, slightly miscued his goalkick which went straight to Tony James. He headed it into the path of Bayram, who shot home well from the edge of the area with the Wycombe defence struggling

to regain their ground.

Apart from Steve Hardwick Wycombe's back-line looked particularly shaky and only some desperate saves prevented further goals from Lewington and Connett in a mad goalmouth scramble right on half-time.

Blues, therefore were still in the game and a goal after the break could bring them right into contention — and they knew it. After Reed's shot had been blocked they got that goal in the 56th minute.

Paul Birdseye, unusually, tried a short throw-in on the right. The ball was returned immediately and he made ground in the bye-line before curling over a perfect cross into the goalmouth. All Terry Scott had to do was to head it in from close range.

The next ten minutes were going to prove crucial and for a split second Blues looked like equalising, but Hollifield miskicked with the

Free-kick

Gradually Dulwich gained control of the mid-field while their opponents relied on the odd quick break out of defence. Bayram seemed particularly keen to complete his third hat-trick of the season and it was his great skill that created the third goal in the 77th minute.

Once again the goal followed a free-kick, this time by Lewis on the left. The tall Paul Edwards headed on to Bayram, whose shot on the turn appeared to be going in before Connett lunged in to provide the final touch.

That score settled the outcome and although Long once hit the side netting Blues never looked like regaining control.

While Blues were trailing I was surprised that substitute Mark Judd was not brought on to add some spark of inspiration up front. It was surely a gamble worth trying.

DULWICH: A. Davies; D. Godwin, R. Brookes, P. Edwards, G. Borg, P. Kingston, C. Lewington, M. Lewis, K. Connett, A. James, O. Bayram. Sub: A. Hart.

WYCOMBE: J. Maskell; P. Birdseye, R. Davies, K. Mead, L. Reed, S. Hardwick, D. Evans, M. Hollifield, S. Long, H. Kennedy, T. Scott. Sub: M. Judd (not used).

Referee: G. Claridge (Dagenham). **Half-time 2-0.** Scores: Croydon — Bayram (30 mins, 42), Connett (77); Wycombe — Scott (56).